

E-Teacher Scholarship Program 2012-13

Practical Applications in Listening and Speaking Skills (PALSS)

OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, LINGUISTICS DEPT./AMERICAN ENGLISH INSTITUTE

The Office of English Language Programs of the U.S. State Department is offering this 10-week online teacher training for eligible candidates. The course will introduce the most recent English language teaching methods and techniques, offer the opportunity to engage in an innovative distance-learning program that employs the latest in modern technology, and provide direct access to U.S. experts with whom participants might not normally have the opportunity to interact.

Course Description

This course is designed to enhance:

- Speaking skills of participants in small group sessions and with a weekly audio journal.
- Listening skills of participants in small group sessions and with self-study activities.
- Teaching skills of participants in listening, speaking, and pronunciation through readings and online discussion, self-study activities, and their participation in model lessons.
- Teaching networks by encouraging collaboration among participants on weekly discussions, in small group sessions, and with ongoing interaction through the course social networking site (Ning).

Weekly components include:

- Small group meetings with the course instructor, who will teach a model lesson and facilitate discussion about the lesson (real time).
- Small group meetings with a conversation partner, who will facilitate informal discussions (real time).
- Audio journal where participants reflect on what they have learned each week.
- Self-study to improve listening and speaking skills using online resources; participants record what they did and their reflections in a self-study log.
- Reading and online discussion (asynchronous).
- Whole-group webinars at different times during the course.
- Final project: a lesson plan that integrates new methods and activities for teaching listening or speaking.

Requirements

Candidates should be highly motivated in-service EFL educators, teacher trainers or ministry officials who are both dedicated to their own professional development and willing to share their knowledge with colleagues. In addition, they should:

- Have **intermediate** (not advanced) level English language proficiency in listening and speaking skills.
- Have access 4-5 times per week minimum to reliable computers with high-speed Internet.
- Have excellent technology skills for email, the Web (e.g., searches, downloads, uploads, managing of course logins/passwords) and file management (e.g., PDF, MS Word/Excel).
- Gmail and Skype accounts with working access *prior to* the start of the course.

Candidates will be nominated by U.S. embassies and selected in a competitive process. Interested candidates should contact the Regional English Language Officer or Cultural Affairs Officer at the nearest U.S. embassy. For an online list, see: <http://www.usembassy.gov/>.

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